

Senate File 2144 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2144

BY SHIPLEY

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to flashing lights equipped on motor vehicles,
2 and making penalties applicable.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.423, Code 2022, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. A person shall not operate a motor
4 vehicle equipped with a flashing light if the flashing light
5 is prohibited on or in the motor vehicle under this section
6 or another provision of this chapter. A violation of this
7 subsection shall be considered a moving violation.

8 EXPLANATION

9 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
10 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

11 Under current law, Code section 321.423 prohibits flashing
12 lights on or in a motor vehicle. There are a wide variety
13 of exceptions to the prohibition based on the color of the
14 flashing light and the type of vehicle.

15 This bill prohibits a person from operating a motor vehicle
16 equipped with a flashing light if the flashing light is
17 prohibited on or in the motor vehicle under current law. By
18 operation of law, a violation of the bill is punishable by a
19 scheduled fine of \$45.

20 Under current law, a moving violation can be considered for
21 purposes of administrative suspension of a driver's license
22 or to establish habitual offender status. The department
23 of transportation's rules define a moving violation as any
24 violation of motor vehicle laws with some exceptions, including
25 violations of equipment standards to be maintained for motor
26 vehicles. The bill specifies that a violation of the bill's
27 prohibition against flashing lights equipped on a motor vehicle
28 is a moving violation.